



DOC# 212224US0

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :  
YOSHIYUKI KUMAZAWA ET AL : GROUP ART UNIT: 1761  
SERIAL NO.: 09/923,358 :  
FILED: AUGUST 8, 2001 : EXAMINER: WONG  
FOR: CHEESE YIELD ENHANCING  
METHOD

#11  
12/12/02  
MW

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated November 4, 2002, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group I, Claims 8-21.

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DEC 06 2002

**TC 1700**

REMARKS

The Examiner has required restriction in the above-identified application as follows:

Group I: Claims 8-21; and

Group II: Claims 22-34.

Applicants have elected, with traverse, Group I, Claims 8-21.

Restriction is only proper if the claims of the restricted groups are either independent or patentably distinct. MPEP §803. The burden is on the Examiner to provide adequate reasons and/or examples to support any conclusion of patentable distinctness between the restricted inventions. MPEP §803. Applicants respectfully traverse the Restriction